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## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

#### **Department Organization**

#### **Readoption with Amendments: N.J.A.C. 7:1**

Adopted: July 29, 2024, by Shawn M. LaTourette, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection.

Filed: July 30, 2024, as R.2024 d.079.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:1B-3.d, 13:1B-3.e, 13:1B-5.a, and 52:14B-3 and 4.b.

DEP Docket Number: 11-24-07.

Effective Date: July 30, 2024.

Expiration Date: July 30, 2031.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is readopting N.J.A.C. 7:1, Department Organization, with amendments that reflect the current structure of the Department and its mission. These rules became effective upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4.b and N.J.A.C. 1:30-6.6(a)3.

#### **Federal Standards Statement**

N.J.A.C. 7:1 was not promulgated pursuant to the authority of or in order to implement, comply with, or participate in any program established pursuant to Federal law, or pursuant to a State statute that incorporates or refers to Federal law, Federal standards, or Federal

requirements. Accordingly, Executive Order No. 27 (1994) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-23 do not require a comparison with Federal law.

**Full text** of the readopted rules can be found in the New Jersey Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 7:1.

**Full text** of the adopted amendments follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

## SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 7:1-1.1 Mission

[(a) The Department's core mission is and will continue to be the protection of the air, waters, land, and natural and historic resources of the State to ensure continued public benefit. The Department's mission is advanced through effective and balanced implementation and enforcement of environmental laws to protect these resources and the health and safety of New Jersey's residents. At the same time, it is crucial to understand how actions of the Department can impact the State's economic growth, to recognize the interconnection of the health of New Jersey's environment and its economy, and to appreciate that environmental stewardship and positive economic growth are not mutually exclusive goals: the Department will continue to protect the environment while playing a key role in positively impacting the economic growth of the State.]

**(a) The Department's mission is to protect and improve public health, safety, and, as trustee, the quality of the natural and historic resources of the State, including the air, water, and land, for the benefit of all New Jersey residents. To achieve its mission, the Department shall, in the development, implementation, and enforcement of the State's**

**environmental laws, policies, and rules, utilize a science-based approach to reduce the impacts of climate change, further the promise of environmental justice and equity, ensure clean air and water for all, and invest in communities and individuals to further the State's transition to a cleaner, more equitable, and sustainable economy. The Department is committed to direct and meaningful engagement and partnership with Federal and State agencies, local governments, communities, conservation and advocacy organizations and businesses, and the people it serves.**

(b) In order to implement the [Mission] **mission**, at (a) above, the Commissioner has issued [a DEP Vision] **Principles** and Priorities [statement], which [is] **are** available at [\[www.nj.gov/dep/about.html\]](http://www.nj.gov/dep/about.html) [www.dep.nj.gov/about/](http://www.dep.nj.gov/about/). [The Vision and Priorities build on the principles set forth in Governor Christie's Executive Orders 1 through 4 (January 20, 2010), available at [www.state.nj.us/infobank/circular/eoindex.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/infobank/circular/eoindex.htm).]

#### 7:1-1.3 Organization of the Department

(a) (No change.)

(b) The following organizational units are established [under] **pursuant to** the Commissioner:

1. – 2. (No change.)

[3. Chief Advisor to the Commissioner;

4. Communications and Public Affairs; and

5. Strategic Communications.]

**3. Legal and Regulatory Affairs;**

**4. Management and Budget;**

**5. Office of Environmental Justice; and**

## **6. Office of Climate Resilience.**

(c) The following organizational units are established [under] **pursuant to** the Commissioner and are headed by Assistant Commissioners:

1. Air [Quality], Energy, and **Materials** Sustainability;
- [2. Compliance and Enforcement;
3. Engineering and Construction;
4. Land Use Management;
5. Natural and Historic Resources;
6. Site Remediation and Waste Management Program; and]
- 2. Community Investment and Economic Revitalization;**
- 3. Contaminated Site Remediation and Redevelopment;**
- 4. Fish and Wildlife;**
- 5. State Parks, Forests, and Historic Sites;**
- [7.] **6. Water Resource Management; and**
- 7. Watershed and Land Management.**

(d) (No change.)